

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SINGAP 03917 180900Z

12
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13

/069 W

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R 180800Z AUG 76
FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5988
INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SINGAPORE 3917

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: AS, US, PT, ID, IN
SUBJECT: MELBOURNE AGE STORY OVER ALLEGED U.S. WARNING TO AUSTRALIA OVER RELATIONS WITH INDONESIA

REF: SINGAPORE 3766

1. IN DISCUSSION WITH EMBOFF ABOUT MELBOURNE AGE STORY BY MICHAEL RICHARDSON ALLEGING THAT THE U.S. HAD WARNED GOA CONCERNING ITS RELATIONS WITH INDONESIA OVER TIMOR PROBLEM, AUSTRALIAN HICOM OFFICER TOLD EMBOFF THAT RICHARDSON'S PIECES WERE ALWAYS WELL RESEARCHED AND THT HIS ARTICLES IN THE MELBOURNE AGE WERE PROBABLY LARGELY BASED UPON THE TWO STUDIES CITED IN THE ARTICLES. HOWEVER, HICOM OFFICER SAID RICHARDSON WAS WELL-KNOWN FOR PROTECTING HIS SOURCES. HE SAID IT WAS POSSIBLE "HYPOTHETICALLY" THAT THE ACTUAL SOURCE COULD HAVE BEEN AN AUSTRALIAN AND THE ATTRIBUTION TO U.S.G. OFFICIALS JUST A COVER.

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2. COMMENT: WE THINK AUSTRALIAN HICOM OFFICER'S COMMENTS (WHICH WERE VOLUNTEERED AND NOT SOLICITED) GENERALLY SUPPORTS HYPOTHESIS ADVANCED REFTEL. DEPUTY AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER BUTLER'S NAME WAS NOT MENTIONED.
HOLDRIDGE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Draft Date: 18 AUG 1976
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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